

Therefore, logically, in amended claim 2, the upsetting operation must occur prior to the drawing operation. This is in contrast to Hiroshi, in which, as previously mentioned, the chamfered portions 13 are formed in the same process as the cup body 1, as shown in FIG. 3(d), by cam fabricating sections P1, P2 and T of punch P (para. [0017-0020]).

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 2 patentably distinguishes over the cited art, and should be allowable for at least the above-mentioned reasons. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that, claim 3-6, which depend ultimately from independent claim 2, should be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 2, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

NEW CLAIM

New, independent claim 7 recites a method comprising: "...elongating an intermediate member having a recess, said recess having a tapered peripheral wall face, which eventually defines a general shape of the chamfered portion; subsequent to the elongating of the intermediate member, shaping the elongated intermediate member to a shape having the cup body; and subsequent to the shaping of the elongated intermediate member to the shape having the cup body, shaping the cup body to a final design dimension and shape by a drawing technique.

In contrast, as mentioned previously in the discussion of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103, in Hiroshi, the chamfered portions 13 are formed in the same process as the cup body 1, as shown in FIG. 3(d), by cam fabricating sections P1, P2 and T of punch P (para. [0017-0020]).

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 7 patentably distinguishes over the cited art, and should be allowable for at least the above-mentioned reasons.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, Applicant's respectfully submit that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the cited art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, Applicant's respectfully submit that the application is in

condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

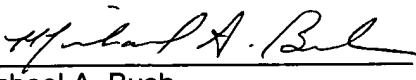
If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 17 Nov. 2003

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